

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TAIPEI PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: ADS, DECLAS: 1/5/76

TAGS: ETRD, TS

SUBJECT: COUNTERVAILING DUTY INVESTIGATION -- FOOTWEAR
FROM TAIWAN

REF: STATE 153604 6/30/75

1. TREASURY WILL PUBLISH A FINAL AFFIRMATIVE COUNTER-
VAILING DUTY DETERMINATION ON IMPORTS OF FOOTWEAR FROM
TAIWAN ON JANUARY 7, 1976. PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT WILL BE
MADE ON JANUARY 5, 1976. AN ESTIMATED COUNTERVAILING DUTY
OF 5 PERCENT AD VALORUM WILL BE COLLECTED ON EACH ENTRY
FOLLOWING THE DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THE DETERMINATION.
LIQUIDATION OF ENTRIES WILL BE SUSPENDED PENDING FURTHER
INVESTIGATION AS TO POSSIBLE BOUNTIES OR GRANTS. ROC
EMBASSY HAS BEEN INFORMED.

2. TREASURY'S ANALYSIS OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE STATUTE
FOR ENCOURAGEMENT OF INVESTMENT LED IT TO CONCLUDE THAT THE
CRITERIA FOR QUALIFYING AS A REGISTERED ENTERPRISE UNDER
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THE LAW COULD ENABLE COMPANIES TO RECEIVE COUNTERVAILABLE

SUBSIDIES. THERE IS NO KNOWLEDGE THAT FOOTWEAR FACILITIES

ARE REGISTERED UNDER THE STATUTE BUT ITS RATHER BROAD CRITERIA WOULD SUGGEST THAT MANY COULD HAVE QUALIFIED. ON

THIS BASIS THE TREASURY HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO ISSUE AN AFFIRMATIVE DECISION. ALL OTHER PROGRAMS ALLEGED BY PETITIONER WERE NOT DEEMED TO BE BOUNTIES OR GRANTS. THE BENEFITS UNDER PREFERENTIAL EXPORT FINANCING WERE DETERMINED TO BE DE MINIMIS, AS WAS THE CASE AT THE TIME OF THE PRELIMINARY DECISION.

3. TREASURY WILL BE PROVIDING SHORTLY A QUESTIONNAIRE TO THE CUSTOMS REPRESENTATIVE IN TAIPEI WHICH WILL ENABLE IT TO DETERMINE THOSE FOOTWEAR FACILITIES, IF ANY, THAT ARE BENEFICIARIES UNDER THE STATUTE FOR THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF INVESTMENT, AND THE EXTENT OF THE BENEFITS RECEIVED UNDER THE LAW. EVERY EFFORT WILL BE MADE TO RESOLVE THIS QUESTION AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME SO AS TO REMOVE THE UNCERTAINTIES THAT COULD DEVELOP IN THE TRADE AS THE RESULT OF THE ESTIMATED COUNTERVAILING DUTY. IN DISCUSSING CASE WITH ROC OFFICIALS, EMBASSY SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT NO FINAL COUNTERVAILING DUTY RATE HAS BEEN SET, AND THAT, SINCE LIQUIDATION HAS BEEN SUSPENDED, TREASURY WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO REVOKE OR MODIFY ITS DECISION IF WARRANTED BY FACTS. IN THAT EVENT, REFUNDS OF ESTIMATED DUTIES COULD BE MADE. INGERSOLL

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